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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY USSR

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Acquisition, handling, accounting, and safekeeping of explosives and detonating equipment (Vzryvchatyye veshchestva i sredstva vzryvaniya -VV and SV) for industrial purposes in the USSR were governed by very strict regulations issued on the highest level by MGB authorities. In accordance with these basic regulations, all ministries using explosives and detonating equipment regulated the procedures to be followed by their subordinate agencies by detailed directives. Stiff penalties were prescribed for irregular possession, handling, or safekeeping of VV and SV. For the territory of the Ukrainian SSR these regulations were contained in the following unclassified manuals:
 - a. Use and Handling of Explosives and Detonating Equipment (Pravila upotrebleniya i Obrashcheniya s VV i SV).
 - b. Technical Safety Rules: Explosives and Detonating Equipment (Pravila tekhniki bezopasnosti vzryvchatykh materialov-VM). Both manuals were published by the Mining Inspectorate (Gornaya inspek-tsiya) Ukrainian SSR, Kiev.
2. All correspondence connected with explosives and detonating equipment was classified secret and kept in safes. Three abbreviations were commonly used in this correspondence:
 - a. VM (Vzryvchatyye materialy). Under this term were placed explosives and detonating equipment (devices, wiring, etc.); in short, all materials used for blowing and shooting.
 - b. VV (Vzryvchatyye veshchestva). This term was reserved strictly for explosives.

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- c. SV (Sredstva vzryvaniya). This term was used for all materials and equipment used in connection with explosives, but not including explosives themselves. VM was actually VV and SV.
3. Requests for VM by quarries had to be forwarded to the Trust of Industrial Enterprises, Chief Highway Directorate, three months in advance. Such requests had to contain justification for the quantity or materials requested supported by an exact description of the work planned. The Trust of Industrial Enterprises would answer with an indication of the source from which VM were to be obtained. This would be either an explosive dump of an enterprise of the Trust or it would be a plant manufacturing VM. This authorization obtained, the technical administrator of the quarry or his deputy would take it in person to the appropriate oblast mining inspectorate (Oblastnaya gornaya inspektsiya) where he would be issued a document called "Authorization for Acquisition of VM" (Razreshitel'noye svidetel'stvo na priobreteniyu VM). Annex A This was the legal document which permitted the purchase and transport of VM. The authorization received from the mining inspectorate contained no indication as to the place where the VM were to be obtained, and it represented the approval only of the mining authorities. Final approval was given by the oblast militia headquarters. A special form entitled "Enterprise Request for Acquisition and Transport of VM" (Zayavka predpriyatiya na priobreteniyu i perevozku VM) had to be filled out and presented in person to the oblast militia headquarters in order to obtain this approval. The completed form had to contain the following data:

- a. Place from where VM were to be drawn.
- b. Place where the VM were to be stored.
- c. Person to be in charge of the VM storeroom or dump.
- d. Person to be in charge of the VM transport.
- e. Transportation means.

If rail transportation was contemplated, no further information about transport was necessary. However, if it was intended to use motor vehicle transportation, the form had to contain the license numbers of trucks which would be used for transport, the names and vehicle operator license numbers of the drivers, and the names of the guards who would be used for guard duty during transport. All such personnel had to be screened in advance and authorized by the oblast militia headquarters to handle explosive materials. A list of persons so authorized was kept on file at the oblast militia headquarters, and the names on the Enterprise Request Form were checked against the list in the militia headquarters. When VM were drawn from plants, the plants always sent them by rail and supplied their own guards. After approving the Enterprise Request, the oblast militia headquarters issued a special permit Annex B to the enterprise for acquisition and transport of VM. These permits were always prepared separately for: 1-VV, 2-Bickford and detonating fuses, and 3-primers, because each of these types of materials had to be kept apart and transported separately. If the enterprise requesting the explosive materials was to handle the transport, the permit was issued to it in a single copy. If the VM were to be supplied and transported by the plant or manufacturer, each permit was prepared in duplicate, one copy to be used for documenting the sale and the other copy for transport. The first coupons (stub) were always retained in the militia headquarters.

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4. When the enterprise received this it would proceed as follows:
 - a. If it was to draw the VM from a VM dump of the Trust of Industrial Enterprises, it would dispatch the adequate number of trucks and guards to this dump and provide the person in charge of this transport with militia permits. Except when it was only a question of a very small quantity of explosives (not more than a few hundred kilograms), three separate trucks had to be dispatched, one for VV, one for fuses, and one for primers. Having issued the VM, the issuing enterprise (dump or storeroom) would retain the last perforated coupon of the permit as documentation of the issue. The middle coupon was retained by the officer in charge of the transport and served as the transport document.
 - b. If the VM was drawn from an explosives plant, the requesting enterprise would mail all six permits (two copies each of the VV, fuse, and primer permits) to this plant or manufacturer. In shipping the VM, the plant or manufacturer would return with them the six middle perforated coupons See Annex E, retaining the six last perforated coupons for the documentation of issue and transport. The permits were mailed in accordance with the standard regulations for classified secret correspondence.
5. In order to obtain authorization to use VM for industrial purposes an enterprise had to have proper storerooms or dumps constructed and protected according to regulation. I do not remember the exact title of the regulation in question, but I know that this regulation was very detailed. In addition to all technical qualifications, such storerooms or dumps had to meet the regulation that specified exactly how close to inhabited localities, railroad lines, plants, and workshops such storerooms could be. The planned locations of storerooms and dumps had always to be approved in advance by representatives of the oblast mining inspectorate and oblast militia headquarters.
6. Seven types of VM storerooms and dumps were permitted by the Mining Inspectorate for all mining enterprises See Annex C. According to their needs, every enterprise had asked for authorization and had constructed adequate storerooms. In maintaining these storerooms the enterprises were governed by two contradictory aims:
 - a. To keep in the dump the largest possible quantity of VM in order to avoid short-term requests for purchase of VM and the bureaucratic difficulties connected with such requests.
 - b. To reduce the administrative personnel and guard details for the operation and protection of the dump.

The first problem could be solved more or less easily, providing the enterprise had sufficient financial means to acquire a large dump. The Mining Inspectorate and the Trust of Industrial Enterprise, Chief Highway Directorate, had not put any limits in this respect upon individual enterprises, so far as I know. The second problem, however, was much more difficult to solve, since regulations in this respect were very strict and enterprises could not avoid complying with them. Therefore, a middle way was usually taken as the solution, and each enterprise tried to keep its dumps with a six-month supply of VM.

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7. There were maximum limits on the quantities of explosives, primers, electric primers, Bickford fuses, and detonating fuses to be stored in each type of VM storeroom. In storerooms of Class I, II, and III Annex C all types of VM could be kept in the same building, but they had to be kept in separate rooms as follows:

- a. Explosives room
- b. Primers room
- c. Fuse room.

Dumps of Class IV and up had to consist of special buildings for each one of these groups. Any of these types of dumps, regardless of its size, could be constructed either on the surface or underground, but because of the harmful influence of underground moisture, the recent tendency in the USSR has been to construct the VM dumps on the surface. Types of VM storerooms and dumps and organization of guard service is presented in Annex C.

8. VM dumps in the USSR:

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a. Carpathian Oblast

- (1) Class IV Dump of the Chief Highway Directorate, Ukrainian SSR, in Kirovo, near Mukachevo N 48-26, E 22-42 . 50X1
- (2) Class V Dump of the Highway Administration, Ukrainian SSR, in Kirovo.
- (3) Class VI Dump of the Ministry of Coal Industry in Berezhinka, six kilometers southeast of Mukachevo.
- (4) Class VI Dump of the Ministry of Coal Industry in Ilnice, 30 km. east-southeast of Mukachevo.
- (5) Class III Dump of the Ministry of Coal Industry in the village Radvanka, two kilometers southeast of Uzhgorod N 48-38, E 22-19.
- (6) Class III Dump of the Ministry of Coal Industry in the village of Kamenica n.U., 10 km. northeast of Uzhgorod.

b. Dumps belonging to the Trust of Industrial Enterprise, Chief Highway Directorate, located outside of the Carpathian Oblast

- (1) Class III Dump in Ol'shanitsa, Kiev Oblast (I do not know the exact location of Ol'shanitsa).
- (2) Class III Dump in the town of Rakitno, Kiev Oblast.
- (3) Class V Dump in the town of Gayvoron, Odessa Oblast.
- (4) Class III Dump in Kamenets Podol'sk, Kamenets Podol'sk Oblast.
- (5) Class V Dump in Skol'e, L'vov Oblast.

- c. Base Dump in Shostka, near Moscow, but I do not know the exact location. This dump was probably subordinate to some such ministry as the Ministry of Heavy Metallurgy.

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9. The Andesite Stone Quarry in Kirovo [redacted] received its VM supplies from Plant #56. All correspondence with this plant used simply the address, "Plant #56" (Zavod No. 56) and I was never able to find out what plant it was and where it was located.

Annexes:

- A. Authorization for Acquisition of VM
- B. Special Permit Issued by the Oblast Militia Headquarters
- C. Types of Storerooms for Explosive Materials and Organization of Guard Service

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ANNEX A:

AUTHORIZATION FOR ACQUISITION OF VM

No.

Issued to: (name of the enterprise)

- Quantity:
- a. Explosives (type and quantity)
 - b. Primers " " "
 - c. Fuses " " "

Purpose: Mining works at (name of the quarry and location)

Dump where VM are to be kept: (dump # and location)

Person in charge of the dump: (first, second, and family name of dump's manager)

Issued at.....

Date

Official stamp

Signature

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ANNEX B: Special Permit Issued by the Oblast Militia Headquarters

Ministry of the Interior
Carpathian Oblast

STUB #.....

PERMIT STUB #.....

PERMIT #

Issued to: (Enterprise)

Authorization: (Authorization for
Acquisition of "VM" No.
issued by the Mining
Inspectorate)

The same contents as stub

The same contents
as stub

Issuing Enterprise: (Plant or Warehouse)

Type of "VM" and Quantities:

- a. "VV" (type of explosive) ..
- b. "SV" (fuses)
- c. "SV" (primers)

Storeroom or Warehouse Manager:

.....(name).....

In Charge of Transport:(name)....

.....

Transport Guard Detail:

.....(names).....

Transportation Means:

.....(truck license numbers).....

Destination Warehouse:

This Permit is Valid until:

.....(3 or 6 months).....

Date of Issue:

Official Signature:

Stamp

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